

OWIA Annual Athlete Contract Selection Criteria - Information

BACKGROUND

The Olympic Winter Institute of Australia (**OWIA**) has a proud tradition of supporting athletes in their sporting pursuits. The objective of the OWIA is the fulfilment of podium performances at World Cup, World Championship events and ultimately at the Olympic Winter Games. The OWIA assists Australian athletes to achieve elite performances in Winter Sports by providing funded world-class sports programming, expert technical coaching, sports medicine and provider services and international competition support.

The OWIA identity represents a strong tie to the Olympic family in Australia. The Australian Olympic Committee provides funding for the operations of the OWIA in partnership with the Federal Government represented by the Australian Institute of Sport (**AIS**), state institutes of sport, industry partners, commercial sponsors and suppliers.

With international competition intensifying and always improving, the OWIA aligns its elite athlete support models with the strategic high performance goals of the Australian Sports System as defined by the AIS.

OWIA ATHLETE CONTRACT SELECTION PROCESS

Application process

To be eligible for consideration for an OWIA Athlete Contract, athletes are required to complete and return the OWIA Athlete Contract Application Form to the OWIA by the nominated due date (in or around April/May of each year), noting the following:

- Athletes who do not complete an Application will not be eligible for an OWIA Athlete Contract.
- Athlete Contract offers are made in or around June of each year, at the sole discretion of the OWIA Board.
- All applicants will be notified in writing of their application outcome.
- The annual Contract period commences 1 July and ends 30 June.

Key Selection Criteria

The OWIA identifies, in consultation with the National Federations, the athletes with the greatest potential to contribute to Australian National High Performance targets. Athletes supported by the OWIA are expected to contribute to the Australian medal tally at Olympic Winter Games, World Championships and World Cups. The minimum performance level for consideration of an OWIA Athlete Contract are:

- Athlete with a top ten world ranking and or,
- Athlete capable of a top ten world ranking and or,
- Talent identified athlete at the discretion of the OWIA and or,
- OWIA Contracted Athlete returning from injury.

Additionally, consideration will be given to:

- Athlete performance tracked over time in order to inform the prioritisation of athlete support.
- Athlete potential to progress.
- Displaying appropriate and positive behaviours, supporting OWIA values of Excellence, Health, Integrity and Respect.



OWIA ATHLETE CONTRACT TYPES

Sport Program Athlete Contract

The OWIA manages and operates sport programs across a range of Winter Sports:

- Aerial Skiing
- Mogul Skiing
- Snowboard Cross
- Ski Cross

The OWIA sport program Head Coach works closely with each athlete to maximise individual training and competition outcomes. Domestic and overseas training, camps and competition opportunities are the key activities for each program. A range of benefits and services are made available to OWIA Sport Program athletes:

- High performance coaching.
- Access to training opportunities and facilities.
- Strength and conditioning coaching.
- Sports Medicine and Sports Science services.
- Physiotherapy, nutrition, sports psychology and athlete wellbeing & engagement services.
- OWIA uniform (Karbon outerwear and XTM gloves).
- International Competition Insurance.

In addition, OWIA Sport Program athletes, based on the OWIA Athlete Categorisation, may receive further benefits, including:

- International and domestic flights support.
- Accommodation support.
- Ground transport.
- Competition costs.
- Subsidy towards the cost of other expense(s).

Park and Pipe Athlete Contract

The OWIA may provide funding and support to selected athletes who have achieved a minimum past performance of a top eight finish at an Olympic Winter Games or World Championships in:

- Snowboard Halfpipe
- Slopestyle Snowboard
- Ski Halfpipe
- Slopestyle Skiing

Park and Pipe athletes may be eligible to receive the following funding/support:

- Funding allocation to support the athlete's best endeavours to achieve and improve elite performance and international podium success at an Olympic Winter Games / World Championships.
- International Competition Insurance (with reference to the athlete's Individual Performance Plan).
- In addition to the funding/support provided:
 - funding for travel (and accommodation as applicable) to the World Championships (Note: the OWIA organises all team travel/accommodation arrangements).



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- funding for travel (and accommodation as applicable) to the Olympic Winter Games is provided by the Australian Olympic Committee (Note: the OWIA will organise Olympic travel arrangements).
- the athlete's one specified coach will be funded for travel and support services to an Olympic Winter Games / World Championships (Note: the OWIA organises all logistical arrangements, as applicable).
- OWIA specialist injury management, medical and other support services may be available upon request.
- Participation opportunities in OWIA supported NSWIS Park and Pipe program activities.

CONTACT

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